

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/603,963

Examiner

REXFORD N BARNIE

Applicant(s)

PAIZ, RICHARD S.

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/05/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*R. N. Barnie*  
REXFORD BARNIE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

09/17/04

### **REASON FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In a telecommunications network incorporating a plurality of call carrier billing entities, a method of gathering and converting multiple independent billable segments of a telephone call into corresponding billing components for communication to a designated call owner in a manner enabling the call owner to effect billing immediately upon termination of the telephone call and prior to network generation of billing component Call Detail Records (CDRs), comprising the steps of:

providing a telecommunications network covering a plurality of geographical regions, wherein each geographical region is subdivided into a plurality of Local Access Transport Areas (LATAs), each LATA is subdivided into a plurality of Number Plan Areas (NPAs), each NPA controls a plurality of NXX exchanges, and each NXX exchange controls a plurality of Central Office (CO) switches; integrating a parallel-distributed computer system into the telecommunications network to define a plurality of concurrently operating independent nodes distributed throughout the telecommunications network in a hierarchical arrangement comprising tiered groups of nodes within the network, a first tier group of said nodes strategically located within the network to monitor and control local call traffic within the NPAs, a second tier group of nodes strategically located within the network to monitor and control local long distance traffic within a LATA or a geographical region having multiple LATAs, and a third tier group of nodes strategically located within the network to monitor and control long-distance and international call traffic;

receiving a telephone call transaction request within the telecommunications network at a first node within said first tier group, the transaction request defining a first telephone number identifying a call origination point and a second telephone number identifying a call destination point; receiving a vector call trajectory at said first node from the telecommunications network, the vector call trajectory comprising a plurality of vector segments defining a switch-to-switch pathway of said call between' said call origination and destination points;

converting the vector call trajectory into a corresponding node-to-node billing trajectory bitmap;

identifying, at each node of said billing trajectory bitmap, which of the plurality of call carrier billing entities within a call billing segment associated with the node are being used and the associated call carrier costs;

alerting each of the nodes along the billing trajectory bitmap to generate a respective billable call segment for communication to a subsequently assigned call owner immediately upon receipt of a telephone call disconnect notification;

establishing ownership of the telephone call, at said first node, among said first, second and third tier groups;

assigning ownership of the call to a call owner node within one of said first, second and third tier groups;

receiving notification at the first node that the telephone call has disconnected; and merging the individual billing components at said assigned call owner node as claimed and connected in claims 1-11.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **REXFORD N BARNIE** whose telephone number is (703)306-2744. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, CURTIS KUNTZ can be reached on (703) 305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PRIMARY EXAMINER  
REXFORD BARNIE  
09/17/04

  
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